Atty. Dkt. No. 053466-0299



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Akihiro FUNAKOSHI et al.

Title:

A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR PANCREATITIS COMPRISING IL-6 ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Appl. No.:

09/762,550

International

8/23/1999

Filing Date:

371(c) Date:

2/9/2001

Examiner:

**Lorraine Spector** 

Art Unit:

1647

Conf. No.:

5276

# <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 CFR §1.56</u>

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

#### TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), before payment of the issue fee.

# RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is attached as Document E6 setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has been provided where readily available (E2=E4 and E3=E5). An English abstract is provided for foreign-language Document E1. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609).

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

### **STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

#### FEE

A credit card payment form in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed to cover the fee associated with an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this submission under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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Зу \_\_\_/

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